

CLAIMS:

1. An object detection system characterized by comprising:
 radar detection means (2) that detects an object using a radar,
 image detection means (3) that detects an object using an image, and
 5 collating means (4) that performs collation between a detection result of the radar
 detection means (2) and a detection result of the image detection means (3) so as to determine
 whether an identical object is detected by the radar detection means (2) and the image detection
 means (3); the object detection system being characterized in that the collating means (4)
 performs a first collation between an object detected by the radar detection means (2) in a
 10 present collation and an object that has been determined as being detected by the radar
 detection means (2) and the image detection means (3) in a previous collation; performs a
 second collation between an object detected by the image detection means (3) in a present
 collation and an object that has been determined as being detected by the radar detection means
 (2) and the image detection means (3) in the previous collation when it is determined that the
 15 identical object is detected by the radar detection means (2) and the image detection means (3)
 in the previous collation; and determines whether the radar detection means (2) and the image
 detection means (3) detect the identical object based on the first and the second collations.

2. The object detection system according to claim 1, characterized in that the collating
 20 means (4) performs a collation between objects detected by the radar detection means (2) in the
 present detection, which are obtained by excluding the object determined as have been detected
 by the radar detection means (2) and the image detection means (3), and objects detected by the
 image detection means (3) in the present detection, which are obtained by excluding the object
 determined as have been detected by the radar detection means (2) and the image detection
 25 means (3) such that it is determined whether the identical object is detected by the radar
 detection means (2) and the image detection means (3).

3. The object detection system according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the radar
 detection means (2) comprises at least one of a millimeter-wave radar and a laser radar.

4. The object detection system according to any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the image detection means (3) comprises a stereo camera.

5. A method of detecting an object in a system (1) including radar detection means (2) that detects an object using a radar, image detection means (3) that detects an object using an image, and collating means (4) that performs collation between a detection result of the radar detection means (2) and a detection result of the image detection means (3) so as to determine whether an identical object is detected by the radar detection means (2) and the image detection means (3), the method being characterized by comprising the steps of:
- performing a first collation (S10, S11) between an object detected by the radar detection means (2) in a present collation and an object that has been determined as being detected by the radar detection means (2) and the image detection means (3) in a previous collation;
- performing a second collation (S12, S13) between an object detected by the image detection means (3) in a present collation and an object that has been determined as being detected by the radar detection means (2) and the image detection means (3) in the previous collation when it is determined that the identical object is detected by the radar detection means (2) and the image detection means (3) in the previous collation; and
- determining whether the radar detection means (2) and the image detection means (3) detect the identical object based on the first and the second collations (S14).

6. The method according to claim 5, characterized by further comprising the step of performing a collation between objects detected by the radar detection means (2) in the present detection, which are obtained by excluding the object determined as have been detected by the radar detection means (2) and the image detection means (3), and objects detected by the image detection means (3) in the present detection, which are obtained by excluding the object

means (3) such that it is determined whether the identical object is detected by the radar detection means (2) and the image detection means (S20 to S25).

7. The method according to claim 5 or 6, characterized in that the radar detection means (2) comprises at least one of a millimeter-wave radar and a laser radar.

8. The method according to any one of claims 5 to 7, characterized in that the image detection means (3) comprises a stereo camera.

9. An object detection system comprising:
a radar detection unit (2) that detects an object using a radar;
an image detection unit (3) that detects an object using an image; and
a collating unit (4) that performs collation between a detection result of the radar detection unit (2) and a detection result of the image detection unit (3) so as to determine whether an identical object is detected by the radar detection unit (2) and the image detection unit (3), wherein the collating unit (4) performs a first collation between an object detected by the radar detection unit (2) in a present collation and an object that has been determined as being detected by the radar detection unit (2) and the image detection unit (3) in a previous collation, performs a second collation between an object detected by the image detection unit (3) in a present collation and an object that has been determined as being detected by the radar detection unit (2) and the image detection unit (3) in the previous collation when it is determined that the identical object is detected by the radar detection unit (2) and the image detection unit (3) in the previous collation, and determines whether the radar detection unit (2) and the image detection unit (3) detect the identical object based on the first and the second collations.

10. The object detection system according to claim 9, wherein the collating unit (4) performs a collation between objects detected by the radar detection unit (2) in the present detection, which are obtained by excluding the object determined as have been detected by the

radar detection unit (2) and the image detection unit (3), and objects detected by the image detection unit (3) in the present detection, which are obtained by excluding the object determined as have been detected by the radar detection unit (2) and the image detection unit (3) such that it is determined whether the identical object is detected by the radar detection unit (2) and the image detection unit (3).

11. The object detection system according to claim 9 or 10, wherein the radar detection unit (2) comprises at least one of a millimeter-wave radar and a laser radar.
- 10 12. The object detection system according to any one of claims 9 to 11, wherein the image detection unit (3) comprises a stereo camera.
13. A method of detecting an object in an object detection system including a radar detection unit (2) that detects an object using a radar, an image detection unit (3) that detects an object using an image, and a collating unit (4) that performs collation between a detection result of the radar detection unit (2) and a detection result of the image detection unit (3) so as to determine whether an identical object is detected by the radar detection unit (2) and the image detection unit (3), the method comprising the steps of:
 - performing a first collation (S10, S11) between an object detected by the radar detection unit (2) in a present collation and an object that has been determined as being detected by the radar detection unit (2) and the image detection unit (3) in a previous collation;
 - performing a second collation (S12, S13) between an object detected by the image detection unit (3) in a present collation and an object that has been determined as being detected by the radar detection unit (2) and the image detection unit (3) in the previous collation when it is determined that the identical object is detected by the radar detection unit (2) and the image detection unit (3) in the previous collation; and
 - determining whether the radar detection unit (2) and the image detection unit (3) detect the identical object based on the first and the second collations.

14. The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of performing a collation between objects detected by the radar detection unit (2) in the present detection, which are obtained by excluding the object determined as have been detected by the radar detection unit (2) and the image detection unit (3), and objects detected by the image detection unit (3) in the present detection, which are obtained by excluding the object determined as have been detected by the radar detection unit (2) and the image detection unit (3) such that it is determined whether the identical object is detected by the radar detection unit (2) and the image detection unit (S20 to S25).

10 15. The method according to claim 13 or 14, wherein the radar detection unit (2) comprises at least one of a millimeter-wave radar and a laser radar.

16. The method according to any one of claims 13 to 15, wherein the image detection unit (3) comprises a stereo camera.

15